Amendment Filed With A Request For Continued Examination I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4).

Dated: October 5, 2009 Signature: /Christina M. Sperry/ (Christina M. Sperry, Reg. No. 47,106)

Docket No.: 101896-242 (DEP5294) (PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Mark C. Boomer et al.

Confirmation No.: 3245 Application No.: 10/709,246

Filed: April 23, 2004

Art Unit: 3733

For: SPINAL IMPLANT CONNECTORS

Examiner: E. Fisher

## AMENDMENT FILED WITH A REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

MS AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

## INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Applicant submits this paper and a Request for Continued Examination in response to the Office Action dated August 5, 2009.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.